Consultation with unions on changes in labour laws

967. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-report captioned, "Unions want to be consulted labour law changes" which appeared in 'The Hindu', dated the 12th May, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to bring forward some amendments in the labour laws so as to expedite programme of liberalization; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the unions would be consulted before finalizing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Trade Union Organisations have been generally opposing amendments in labour laws unless these are perceived as beneficial to the working class.

(c) and (d) Review/updation of labour laws in an ongoing process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness and employment generation, a need has been felt to make amendments in certain labour laws and steps initiated accordingly. Mean while, the National Commission on Labour has submitted its report to the Government on 29.06.2002. The recommendations of the Commission cover wide range of issues which require consultation with all concerned organizations/agencies/social partners before these are accepted/implemented.

Eligibility criteria for recruitment of Foremen in ITIs

†968. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the eligibility criteria and rules prescribed for recruitment of Foremen

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in various trades in the Industrial Training Institutes under the Technical Education Directorate;

(b) whether it is a fact that various institutes have not observed the rules in recruitment to the above posts during the last two years; and

(c) if, so, whether Government propose to hold an enquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The following qualification has been prescribed by National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) for the post of Group Instructors (formerly called Foremen) in State ITIs.

(i) Matric or equivalent

(ii) Diploma in Technology/Engineering

(iii) Five years practical experience in a reputed industrial concern or in a training institute.

(b) and (c) ITIs are under the administrative and financial control of State/UT Government. Staff are recruited by them as per recruitment rules and action, if any, is to be taken by the respective State Government/ UT in case of a deviation from rules.

Child Labour

969. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated figure of child labour in the country with names of major industries where they are employed;

(b) the punishment for employing child labour and whether the State authorities have ever raided these centre and apprehended the guilty officials for violation of the laws, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have taken a note of the procession taken out by the child labourers as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 1st June, 2002, if so, the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Authentic information on child labour in